| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2239  Responded to: 26 September 2023 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to know the number of cannabis factories discovered in the Scotland in each of the past five years? And if possible a breakdown of the property type and/or tenure

In response to your request, I can first of all advise you that there is no recognised definition of cannabis factory and as such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

I can further advise you that crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the Scottish Government Justice Department [offence classification codes](https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-classification-crimes-offences/) and are not thereafter sub-categorised.

In this instance, the relevant offence is *Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs,* however the classification is not thereafter sub-categorised by drug type.

As such, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to assess each crime report, for the time period requested, to establish whether cannabis was involved, and extract the relevant details.

As illustrated in our [Published Crime Statistics](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/svplwv3q/management-information-force-report-quarter-4-2022-23.xlsx), for the financial year 2022/23 alone, there were 397 recorded offences of Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs. Therefore given the volume of reports that would need to be examined over a 5 year period this would be an exercise which would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations

If you require any further assistance please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.